

MARCH SCHOOL OF THE MONTH

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2003

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I have named Oceanside High School in the Oceanside School District as School of the Month in the Fourth Congressional District for March 2003.

The principal of Oceanside High School is Dorie Ciulla, the vice-principal is Robert Ledlie and the Superintendent of Schools is Herb Brown. Oceanside High School has over 1600 students in grades 9–12 and over 140 staff members. The school philosophy is "Know Thoroughly, Think Critically, Act Ethically."

I chose Oceanside High School because its Participation in Government program for High School Seniors stands out among the other district high schools. Oceanside's seniors are encouraged to get involved in government by learning not only about our nation's history, but by studying our country's evolving public policy and set of laws, and the importance of community service.

Oceanside High School seniors can enroll in a variety of Participation in Government classes. Students with teacher or chairperson recommendations can enroll in Advanced Placement American Government, a college level course that features an in-depth curriculum covering the basic institutions of United States government.

Students who enroll in Community Volunteer Service get a dual curriculum, where they spend three days per week studying the issues faced by our local, state and federal government, and two class periods a week doing volunteer work in hospitals, nursing homes, elementary schools, political offices and day care centers. Completion of the course leaves students with first hand knowledge of the problems discussed in class.

Oceanside seniors have one other Participation in Government option: Public Policy and the Law. This class focuses on the political side of government, by teaching students the nature of politics, how politics relates to decision-making, and the formulation of public policy on local, state and federal levels. Students learn the process by participating in mock trials, town meetings and public hearings.

The Participation in Government classes converge to hold an annual Human Relations Day. On March 19, over 50 speakers were invited to address Oceanside students on a variety of topics, ranging from violence prevention to AIDS awareness to civil liberties to poverty on Long Island. The event provided the students with in-depth discussions of particular issues that they felt were of importance.

Human Relations Day is a unique and wonderful way for our students to be involved in current events. It shows that the classes in which the students are enrolled are truly successful in motivating the students to get involved in many public policy issues and matters of national concern.

I am proud to name Oceanside High School the school of the month for March 2003.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS THE SUPPORT AND COMMITMENT OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE TROOPS SERVING TO PROTECT AND DEFEND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY ENCOURAGING ACTIONS TO EXTEND AND PROTECT THEIR STUDENT FINANCIAL AID FOR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION—H. RES. 158

HON. JOHN KLINE

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2003

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce a resolution expressing the support and commitment of the U.S. House of Representatives for the troops who are serving to protect and defend the United States. More specifically, the resolution encourages actions to extend and protect the postsecondary student financial aid monies of these soldiers during this uncertain time.

This resolution is simple in its purpose. Following the attacks of September 11, 2001, Congress passed the HEROES Act of 2001, which allowed the Secretary of Education to work with affected borrowers, lenders and institutions of higher education to grant flexibility surrounding student financial aid matters. This resolution urges the Secretary of Education to maintain his commitment to our men and women in uniform by providing assistance and flexibility as they transfer in and out of postsecondary education during this uncertain time.

The resolution also urges all postsecondary institutions to provide a full refund of tuition, fees and other charges to students who are members of the Armed Forces or are serving on active duty, including the Reserves and National Guard. Many times, America's military are also students. They are called away from their class work and studies to serve our nation's national defense. These heroes deserve the flexibility and accommodations that institutions of higher education can provide as they are leaving for active duty and returning to the classroom.

Lastly, this resolution urges lending institutions that hold or service Federal student loans for borrowers who have been called to serve the nation's defense to provide all available benefits and flexibility to these servicemen and women. When these servicemen and women return to the United States, we don't want to put them in a worse position financially because of the time they were overseas serving our nation.

I hope my colleagues join me in expressing the Congress's commitment to our military and to our students and families.

HONORING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KIDS BREAKFAST CLUB

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2003

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Kids Breakfast Club of Hayward, California on its 10th anniversary.

The Kids Breakfast Club was started by educator Marlena Uhrig as a program designed to provide a healthy breakfast and activities during school breaks for children who depend on school lunches for nutrition.

After serving 200 breakfasts to low-income children and their families at the Club's inaugural event in December, 1992, Marlena developed a more comprehensive program to include a free breakfast along with expanded opportunities for learning.

Today the program serves children during winter and spring breaks, and includes arts and crafts for children, a literacy program with story time and storytelling, free books, clothing, and health and dental screenings and referrals.

While the children are engaged in activities, the adults attend adult education classes on topics that interest them, including gang prevention, nutrition, drugs, tobacco, and alcohol, and receive training in first aid, CPR, and parenting skills. All of the presenters are bilingual to serve Spanish-speaking parents.

The Kids' Breakfast Club has grown from one location to five, and over 30,000 breakfasts have been served in the program's 10 years of existence. The program also includes a year-round, once-a-month Saturday program. It has formed partnerships with the Youth Enrichment Program to provide tutoring for the students, and the Hayward Adult School to provide presenters and leadership.

I am honored to commend the Kids' Breakfast Club and its founder Merlena Uhrig for its dedication to providing children and their families with a safe and healthy start when school is not in session. The Club has brought the community together to show true meaning of the African proverb "it takes an entire village to raise a child."

TRIBUTE TO SONNY CALLAHAN

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 25, 2003

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, from the cab of an 18-wheeler to a seat on one of the most influential committees in Congress, the road Sonny Callahan has traveled getting to our nation's capital was never dull.

Congressman Callahan was first elected to the United States House of Representatives on November 6, 1984 and served the people of Alabama's First Congressional District for eighteen years.

Prior to coming to Congress, Sonny Callahan was a successful small businessman who knew what it was like to meet a payroll each month. This experience taught him valuable lessons in paperwork and management and solidified his views as an outspoken advocate of less government.

A veteran of the Alabama legislature, Sonny Callahan came to Washington in 1985 committed to providing a conservative voice in Congress. Ten years later Callahan was tapped to chair the powerful House Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations. In so doing, he became one of the 13 "Cardinals," an honorary title bestowed on the Appropriations subcommittee chairmen who, by virtue of their positions, are among the most influential members of the House.